

## CHAPTER 734

(House Bill 1426)

AN ACT concerning

## Administrative Release of Mental Patients

FOR the purpose of allowing certain officials of the Mental Hygiene Administration to release certain patients from mental health facilities in certain circumstances; requiring certain officials to comply with certain requirements in making these releases; and relating generally to the administrative release of patients from facilities of the Mental Hygiene Administration.

BY renumbering

Article 59 - Mental Hygiene  
Section 18(c) through (e), respectively  
to be Section 18(d) through (f), respectively  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1972 Replacement Volume and 1978 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 59 - Mental Hygiene  
Section 18(c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1972 Replacement Volume and 1978 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 18(c) through (e), respectively, of Article 59 - Mental Hygiene, of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 18(d) through (f), respectively.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

## Article 59 - Mental Hygiene

18.

(C) AT THE DIRECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE MENTAL HYGIENE ADMINISTRATION, HIS AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE, OR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF ANY FACILITY, ~~OR IN THE CASE OF A PATIENT IN A VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL,~~ AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF OFFICER OF THAT HOSPITAL, ANY PATIENT NOT DETAINED PURSUANT TO THE